

**Amendments to the Claims**

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A computer-implemented method for indicating criteria for  
2 organizing electronic objects, comprising steps of:

3 detecting, by a user input monitor, that a user has swiped across an element of a rendered  
4 representation of an electronic object in a particular manner;

5 comparing ~~[[a]]~~ the particular manner of in which the swiping was performed, responsive  
6 to the detecting, to previously-defined settings that specify what manner of swiping indicates an  
7 ~~identification of dynamically-identified;~~ that the user is dynamically identifying a user-defined  
8 ~~organizing-criteria criterion;~~ and

9 storing, if the comparing step determines that the particular manner in which the swiping  
10 ~~was performed is consistent with the specified defined~~ settings, the swiped-across element in a  
11 repository of criteria, from which the stored element can subsequently be selected for inclusion  
12 in a pattern to be matched against electronic objects for programmatically organizing the  
13 electronic objects.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step  
2 of enabling the user to configure the defined settings.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detected swiping~~  
2 particular manner further comprises repeatedly swiping across a word, a phrase, or one or more  
3 contiguous characters in the rendered representation, and wherein the storing step stores the

4 swiped-across word, phrase, or one or more contiguous characters as the stored element.

1 Claim 4 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the word, the phrase,  
2 or the characters is/are rendered from a text document.

1 Claim 5 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the word, the phrase,  
2 or the characters is/are rendered from an e-mail message.

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

2 ~~the detected swiping~~ particular manner further comprises swiping across a portion of an  
3 image in the rendered representation; and

4 the storing step stores the swiped-across image portion as the element; and further  
5 comprising the steps of:

6 including the stored image portion in a particular pattern to be matched against electronic  
7 objects; and

8 using the particular pattern for programmatically organizing the electronic objects, further  
9 comprising the steps of:

10 evaluating content of each of the electronic objects with respect to the particular  
11 pattern; and

12 including each of the compared objects in a category to which the particular  
13 pattern corresponds if the evaluating step determines that the content matches the particular

14 pattern, including the image portion included therein.

1 Claim 7 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the detected swiping  
2 further comprises swiping across one or more words, phrases, or characters in the rendered  
3 representation as the element.

1 Claim 8 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the detected swiping  
2 further comprises swiping across a portion of one or more images in the rendered representation  
3 as the element.

Claim 9 (canceled)

1 Claim 10 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step  
2 of building one or more rules, each rule specifying a pattern that comprises at least one  
3 organizing criteria to be matched against electronic objects for programmatically organizing the  
4 electronic objects, wherein the stored element is used as one of the organizing criteria in at least  
5 one of the rules.

1 Claim 11 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detecting step~~  
2 particular manner further comprises ~~detecting that the user swiped~~ swiping across the element by  
3 moving a mouse device across the element at least twice.

Serial No. 09/973,883

-4-

Docket RSW920010194US1

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detecting step~~  
2 particular manner further comprises ~~detecting that the user swiped~~ swiping across the element by  
3 moving a light pen device across the element at least twice.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detecting step~~  
2 particular manner further comprises ~~detecting that the user swiped~~ swiping across the element by  
3 moving his or her finger at least twice across the element, wherein the element is rendered on a  
4 plasma panel device.

1 Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detecting step~~  
2 particular manner further comprises ~~detecting that the user swiped~~ swiping across the element  
3 using an audio mechanism by speaking commands in the manner specified in the previously-  
4 defined settings.

1 Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~detecting step~~  
2 particular manner further comprises ~~detecting that the user swiped~~ swiping across the element  
3 using a video mechanism by passing his or her eyes repeatedly over the element.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the settings specify  
2 that the element of the rendered representation must be swiped across multiple times to indicate

3 the identification.

1 Claim 17 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the storing step  
2 further comprises adding the swiped-across element to organizing criteria of an index, thereby  
3 causing the index to become adaptive to the user swipings.

1 Claim 18 (currently amended): A system for indicating criteria for organizing electronic objects,  
2 comprising:

3 a processor;

4 means for detecting, by a user input monitor of the processor, that a user has swiped  
5 across an element of a rendered representation of an electronic object in a particular manner;

6 means for comparing, by the processor, ~~[[a]] the particular manner in which of the~~  
7 ~~swiping was performed, responsive to the means for detecting, to previously-defined settings that~~  
8 ~~specify what manner of swiping indicates an identification of dynamically-identified; that the~~  
9 user is dynamically identifying a user-defined organizing criteria criterion;

10 means for storing, if the means for comparing determines that the particular manner in  
11 ~~which the swiping was performed~~ is consistent with the specified defined settings, the swiped  
12 element in a repository of criteria usable by the processor for programmatically organizing  
13 electronic objects; and

14 means for enabling the stored element to be subsequently selected as an organizing  
15 criterion for use in a rule, wherein the rule can subsequently be used for programmatically

16 organizing the electronic objects.

1 Claim 19 (currently amended): A computer program product for indicating criteria for  
2 organizing electronic objects, the computer program product embodied on one or more  
3 computer-readable media and comprising code that, when executed on a computer, causes the  
4 computer to:

5 detect, by a user input monitor, that a user has swiped across an element of a rendered  
6 representation of an electronic object in a particular manner;

7 compare ~~[[a]]~~ the particular manner of ~~to which the swiping was performed~~, responsive to  
8 the detection, to previously-defined settings that specify what manner of swiping indicates an  
9 ~~identification of dynamically-identified; that the user is dynamically identifying a~~ user-defined  
10 organizing criteria criterion;

11 store, if the comparison determines that the particular manner in which the swiping was  
12 ~~performed~~ is consistent with the ~~specified~~ defined settings, the swiped element in a repository of  
13 criteria usable for programmatically organizing electronic objects; and

14 enable the stored element to be used as an organizing criterion in a rule, wherein the rule  
15 can subsequently be used for programmatically organizing the electronic objects.

Claim 20 (canceled)